

# Raleigh Crew Wins U.S. Open

BY DOUG RUTTER

David Stallings of Raleigh hooked a 42.05-pound fish to win the U.S. Open King Mackerel Tournament and claim the top prize of \$43,270.

Brunswick County anglers took nine of the top 50 places and half of the aggregate weight awards, but visiting fishermen took home most of the prize money in the 13th annual tournament out of Southport.

Ken Parks of Murrells Inlet, S.C., took second place and \$20,962 in prize money with a 40.5-pound king. He captained the *Sea Toy*.

The third-place trophy and \$12,308 went to John Banner Jr. of Wilmington and the *Whiskey Jack II* team. They landed a 38.75-pound fish.

Stallings, who fished with Bill Dupree and Jerry Jackson, captained the boat *Grey II* and caught the winning fish last Friday around 1:30 p.m.

The five-year veteran of the U.S. Open tournament said he hooked the big king near Christmas Rock off the Cape Fear River and needed only 15 minutes to get it in the boat.

"I knew it was a big fish," Stallings said prior to Saturday's awards ceremony. "I figured it would be a money fish."

Even with the prize king weighed in, however, Stallings and his team

returned to the ocean for more fishing Saturday. They caught just one cobia, as it rained most of the second day of the tournament.

The rain didn't keep very many anglers from fishing, as 486 of the 506 registered boats checked out and weighed in 191 kings.

Fishermen weighed in 368 kings the first day of the tournament. The total weight of the kings caught during the two-day event was 9,153 pounds.

Rounding out the top five finishers were James Eubanks of Wilmington, 38.55 pounds, \$2,500; and Steve Hamilton of Long Beach, 37.65 pounds, \$1,500.

Other winners from Brunswick County included Joe Manning, 13th, 32.65, \$850; Mike Cain, Calabash, 18th, 31.2, \$600; Jim Beacham, Yaupon Beach, 27th, 27.75, \$400; Kendall Suh, Ocean Isle Beach, 28th, 27.6, \$400; Warren Plowden, Southport, 29th, 27.55, \$400; Pat Barber, Shallotte, 34th, 26.8, \$350; Guy Fields, Long Beach, 46th, 25.5, \$250; and Lacy Prince, Southport, 50th, 25.0, \$250.

DeCarol Williamson of Ocean Isle Beach won the daily aggregate weight prize for the second day of the tournament with three fish weighing 66.95 pounds. He was awarded \$1,025.

Other aggregate weight winners for day two were Frank Prior of Wilmington with 66.05 pounds and Randy Way of Yaupon Beach with 59.55 pounds. Prior won \$725 and Way took home \$525.

Aggregate weight winners for the first day were Mack Baker of Atlantic Beach with 83.45 pounds, J.E. Cameron of Richlands with 75.3 pounds and Scott Hewett of Supply with 69.7 pounds.

## This Week's Tide Table

Day	Date	OCTOBER HIGH		LOW	
		A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
Thursday	10	10:25	10:31	3:54	4:31
Friday	11	11:07	11:12	4:35	5:13
Saturday	12	11:49	11:52	5:15	5:58
Sunday	13	12:35	12:35	5:58	6:45
Monday	14	12:38	1:22	6:45	7:36
Tuesday	15	1:30	2:15	7:36	8:31
Wednesday	16	2:27	3:10	8:36	9:28

**ADJUSTMENTS**  
 SHALLOTTE INLET—add 17 min. high tide, add 32 min. low tide.  
 LOCKWOOD FOLLY—subtract 22 min. high tide, subtract 8 min. low tide.  
 BALD HEAD ISLAND—subtract 10 min. high tide, subtract 7 min. low tide.  
 SOUTHPORT—add 7 min. high tide, add 15 min. low tide.  
 LITTLE RIVER—add 7 min. high tide, add 7 min. low tide.



SHOWING OFF THE TOURNAMENT WINNER are (from left) Jerry Jackson, David Stallings and Bill Dupree. The 42.05-pound king was worth \$43,270.



ANGLERS LINE UP last Thursday to catch spots at Holden Beach Fishing Pier.

# Anglers Catch Spots, Spots And More Spots

BY DOUG RUTTER

Local fishermen caught spots, spots and more spots last week as the fall fishing season arrived in full force.

"I ain't never seen the fish they caught this past week," said an excited Curtis Williamson, manager of Ocean Isle Beach Fishing Pier. "Everybody got all they wanted."

Williamson said the spots bit on high and low tide last week and rain showers over the weekend didn't have any effect on the fishing.

"The fish really bit," he said Monday morning. "The pier stayed full all week and we carried them off by the bucketful."

Williamson said it was the best week of the season, and he expected this week to be just as good if not better. He attributed the good fishing to cooler weather and cooler water temperatures.

Spokesmen from the two other local fishing piers gave similar reports of spot catches.

Gil Bass of Holden Beach Fishing Pier said anglers were catching them two at a time up and down the pier.

"Everything's going great," he said. "We're catching a lot of spots. There's just an abundance of them."

Bass said fishermen pulled in five king mackerel last week, including a 20-pounder, and a few flounder.

At Sunset Beach Fishing Pier, fishermen caught loads of spots as well as pompano, whiting, blues

## FISHING REPORT

and four king mackerel.

"They caught more fish over the weekend than they have in a long time," said spokesman John Mills. "They're carrying them off by the buckets."

Mills said the largest king caught last week weighed 28 pounds.

### Captain Pete's Seafood

"Spots are running real, real well. They're catching them everywhere," Jesse Hayes of Captain Pete's Seafood at Holden Beach said Monday.

Hayes said commercial fishermen caught more than 2,000 pounds of spots between Sunday afternoon and Monday morning. "This is what we've been waiting for," he said.

Besides spots, fishermen are still catching a lot of flounder in the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway. One angler pulled an 11 1/2-pounder from Lockwood Folly River last week.

Rainy weather and winds spoiled offshore fishing over the weekend. But Hayes said fishermen caught snapper and grouper last week as well as king mackerel.

### Sea Mist Camping Resort

"It was like a zoo down here," Mary Roscoe of Sea Mist Camping Resort at Brick Landing said of the weekend fishing activity.

Anglers caught large spots in nets



BRUCE MOORE of Holden Beach caught this 10-pound flounder recently. Flounder are still biting in the waterway.

and on the hook and line. "So far it's been the best fishing in a long time," she said.

Brandon Wilson, a member of Boy Scout Troop 219 from Rockingham, caught 65 spots one day at Ocean Isle Beach Fishing Pier.

"Everybody did good down here," Mrs. Roscoe said. "Even the rain I don't think discouraged people too much."

Not only was the bait selling over the weekend, but the coolers were as well. Mrs. Roscoe said one group bought six coolers for all of their fish.

### Hughes' Marina

Anglers caught big spots, speckled trout, puppy drum and flounder inside last week and Spanish, kings and gray trout offshore, according to Allison Hughes of Hughes' Marina at Shallotte Point.

"The spots are getting larger in the river," she said. "Even with the rains and all, everybody caught something."



RUSTY CRISCO of Indian Trail caught this blackfin tuna Saturday aboard the *Alice E* out of Holden Beach. Also pictured is Joey Bartlett of Matthews, who almost landed a sailfish.

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